

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1231
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2000
COMPLAINT AGAINST LANDING OF THAKRE'S HELICOPTER
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item published in 'Jansatta', New Delhi dated January 18, 2000 under the caption "Thakre Ka helicopter uttarne ki shikayat darj karaigi nau sena";
- (b) if so, whether any complaint has since been lodged;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): An incident of unauthorised landing at Naval helipad, Uran by Dauphin helicopter with Registration marked VT-CKR carrying Mr. Bal Thackre occurred at 1217 Hrs. on 16th January 2000. On investigation of the incident, it was established that the pilot could not locate the airfield at Shirke and landed at the Naval helipad, Uran which was nearest to the Shirke airfield. The incident had occurred due to genuine pilot error and there was no mala fide intention on the part of the pilot. As such, no follow up action was necessary.